

# Connecticut Statewide Opioid Prescription Data from the Connecticut Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System

January 1 – September 30, 2021

Connecticut Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System data

Indicator	Quarter 1, 2021			Quarter 2, 2021			Quarter 3, 2021		
	Numerator	Denominator	Value	Numerator	Denominator	Value	Numerator	Denominator	Value
22a: Rate of opioid analgesics, excluding all buprenorphine products (for MAT and for pain) prescribed per 1,000 residents	335,192	3,565,287	94.02	341,240	3,603,448	94.70	334,193	3,603,448	92.74
Fairfield	68,426	943,332	72.54	68,692	957,050	71.77	68,058	957,050	71.11
Hartford	79,644	891,720	89.32	79,757	898,682	88.75	79,880	898,682	88.89
Litchfield	21,722	180,333	120.45	21,781	184,938	117.77	21,880	184,938	118.31
Middlesex	17,398	162,436	107.11	17,367	164,063	105.86	17,269	164,063	105.26
New Haven	90,620	854,757	106.02	90,811	864,094	105.09	90,861	864,094	105.15
New London	29,715	265,206	112.04	29,389	268,450	109.48	29,244	268,450	108.94
Tolland	13,812	150,721	91.64	13,503	149,767	90.16	13,634	149,767	91.03
Windham	13,341	116,782	114.24	9,043	116,404	77.69	9,051	116,404	77.76
22b: Rate of opioid analgesics, excluding all buprenorphine products (for MAT and for pain) dispensed per 1,000 residents	18,924,015	3,565,287	5,307.85	19,023,678	3,603,448	5,279.30	18,824,041	3,603,448	5,223.90
Fairfield	3,614,697	943,332	3,831.84	3,586,993	957,050	3,747.97	3,583,982	957,050	3,744.82
Hartford	4,246,431	891,720	4,762.07	4,197,711	898,682	4,670.96	4,276,414	898,682	4,758.54
Litchfield	1,281,802	180,333	7,107.97	1,259,762	184,938	6,811.81	1,288,426	184,938	6,966.80
Middlesex	993,679	162,436	6,117.36	985,404	164,063	6,006.25	982,072	164,063	5,985.94
New Haven	5,500,334	854,757	6,434.97	5,431,350	864,094	6,285.60	5,485,923	864,094	6,348.76
New London	1,747,260	265,206	6,588.31	1,699,482	268,450	6,330.72	1,711,332	268,450	6,374.86
Tolland	760,744	150,721	5,047.37	736,727	149,767	4,919.15	745,152	149,767	4,975.41
Windham	780,155	116,782	6,680.44	527,282	116,404	4,529.76	527,712	116,404	4,533.45
23: Percent of patients receiving (by prescription and dispensed at a pharmacy) an average daily dose of 90 morphine milligram equivalents (MME) or more of opioid analgesics, across all opioids, excluding all buprenorphine products (for MAT and for pain)	13,522	152,475	8.9%	13,034	157,434	8.3%	12,503	152,330	8.2%
25: Among opioid-naïve patients (i.e., patients who have not taken opioid analgesics in 45 days), excluding all buprenorphine products (for MAT and for pain), percent of patients prescribed long-acting/extended-release opioids	495	10,841	4.6%	514	10,460	4.9%	480	10,020	4.8%
26: Percent of patient prescription days with overlapping opioid prescriptions, excluding all buprenorphine products (for MAT and for pain)	956,094	5,807,914	16.5%	959,151	5,852,158	16.4%	942,522	5,800,951	16.2%
27: Percent of patient prescription days with overlapping opioid (excluding all buprenorphine products [for MAT and for pain]), and benzodiazepine prescriptions	1,083,311	5,807,914	18.7%	1,074,309	5,852,158	18.4%	1,048,887	5,800,951	18.1%

Indicator	First Half 2021		
	Numerator	Denominator	Value
24: Rate of multiple provider episodes (5 or more prescribers and 5 or more pharmacies in a 6 month period) for opioid prescriptions (excluding all buprenorphine products for MAT and for pain) per 100,000 residents	30	3,603,448	0.83

**Note:** County totals will not add up to the state total because not all prescriptions have county information available.



Office of Injury Prevention  
Connecticut Department of Public Health  
Last modified 01/26/2022

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## Indicator Definitions

**Indicator 22a:** This indicator represents the number of opioid analgesic prescriptions that were prescribed to Connecticut residents within Connecticut during the given time period, per 100,000 Connecticut residents.

**Indicator 22b:** This indicator represents the number of opioid analgesic prescriptions that were dispensed to Connecticut residents within Connecticut during the given time period, per 100,000 Connecticut residents.

**Indicator 23:** This indicator represents the percent of Connecticut patients who were prescribed an average dose of 90 morphine milligram equivalents (MME) or more of opioid analgesic drugs per day, among all Connecticut residents who received an opioid analgesic prescription within Connecticut during the given time period.

The CDC recommends to use caution when prescribing opioids at any dosage and prescribe the lowest effective dose, and to avoid or carefully justify increasing dosage to  $\geq 90$  MME/day. Patients taking or exceeding 90 MMEs per day are at increased risk of unintentional drug overdose.

**Indicator 25:** This indicator represents the percent of Connecticut patients who were prescribed at least one long-acting/extended release opioid who had not been dispensed an opioid prescription in the previous 45 days, among all Connecticut residents who received a long-acting/extended release opioid prescription within Connecticut during the given time period.

Extended-release and long-acting opioids, which are available by prescription and come in several forms—pills, liquids, skin patches—often contain higher doses of medication than immediate-release opioids and opioid/non-opioid combination drugs. Because these medications can pose significant risks and safety concerns, new label requirements will stress that other treatment options should be considered before ER/LA opioid drugs.

(<http://www.healthcommunities.com/chronic-pain/extended-release-long-acting-opioids-fda.shtml>)

**Indicator 26:** This indicator represents the percent of days during which Connecticut patients had more than one prescribed opioid prescription, among the sum of all prescribed opioid days for Connecticut residents within Connecticut in the given time period.

**Indicator 27:** This indicator represents the percent of days during which Connecticut patients had at least one opioid and at least one benzodiazepine prescription on the same day, among the sum of all prescribed opioid days for Connecticut residents within Connecticut in the given time period.

**Indicator 24:** This indicator represents the number of Connecticut patients receiving prescriptions for opioid analgesics from five or more prescribers dispensed at five or more pharmacies in a six-month period within Connecticut during the given time period, per 100,000 Connecticut residents.

